

Federal Advisory Committee (FAC) Membership Balance Plan

1. Federal Advisory Committee Name

State the legal name of the FAC

Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee (hereinafter the “Committee”).

2. Authority

Identify the authority for establishing the FAC

The Committee was established at the direction of the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (hereinafter the “Commission”) and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) as amended, 5 U.S.C., App. 2.

3. Mission/Function

Describe the mission/function of the FAC

The mission of the Committee is to make recommendations to the Commission on how to accelerate the deployment of high-speed Internet access, or “broadband,” by reducing and/or removing regulatory barriers to infrastructure investment. This Committee is intended to provide an effective means for stakeholders with interests in this area to exchange ideas and develop recommendations to the Commission on broadband deployment, which will in turn enhance the Commission’s ability to carry out its statutory responsibility to encourage broadband deployment to all Americans.

Issues to be considered by the Committee may include, but are not limited to, drafting for the Commission’s consideration a model code covering local franchising, zoning, permitting, and rights-of-ways regulations; recommending further reforms of the Commission’s pole attachment rules; identifying unreasonable regulatory barriers to broadband deployment; and recommending further reform within the scope of the Commission’s authority (to include, but not limited to, sections 253 and 332(c)(7) of the Communications Act and section 6409 of the Spectrum Act).

4. Points of View

Based on understanding the purpose of the FAC, (a) describe the process that will be used to ensure the committee is balanced, and identify the categories (e.g. individual expertise or represented interests) from which candidates will be considered; (b) consider identifying an anticipated relative distribution of candidates across the categories; and (c) explain how a determination was made to appoint any individuals as Special Government Employees or Representative members

Members will represent a wide variety of entities with interests in broadband deployment. Members will include representatives of various sectors of the communications industry, representatives of state and local regulators, and representatives of consumers and community organizations. Industry representatives will be selected from rural and urban Internet service providers, independent network builders and networking equipment installers, pole and conduit owners, other entities involved in deploying broadband to all Americans, and industry trade associations. Members will be selected to balance the expertise and viewpoints that are necessary to address effectively the issues to be considered by the Committee.

Members are appointed as representatives of the communications industry, representatives of state and local regulators, or representatives of consumers. As appropriate, members may also be appointed for their individual expertise as SGEs.

5. Other Balance Factors

List of any other factors your agency identifies as important in achieving a balanced FAC

The Commission is particularly interested in receiving nominations and expressions of interest from individuals and organizations in the following categories:

- Rural Internet service providers that use licensed or unlicensed spectrum, fiber optics, copper wires, or coaxial cables, or any other means to offer high-speed broadband service;
- Urban Internet service providers that use licensed or unlicensed spectrum, fiber optics, copper wires, or coaxial cables, or any other means to offer high-speed broadband service;
- Independent network builders and networking equipment installers;
- Other entities involved in deploying broadband;
- Industry trade associations;
- Federal, state, local, and Tribal government agencies;
- Consumer and community organizations; and
- Qualified representatives of other stakeholders and interested parties with relevant experience.

6. Candidate Identification Process

Summarize the process intended to be used to identify candidates for the FAC, key resources expected to be tapped to identify candidates and the key persons (by position, not name) who will evaluate FAC balance. The summary should: (a) describe the process; (b) identify the agency key staff involved (by position, not name); (c) briefly describe how FAC vacancies, if any, will be handled by the agency; and (d) state the membership term limit of FAC members, if applicable

The Commission will solicit nominations and expressions of interest in membership through outreach to organizations and entities with interests in the matters to be considered by the Committee and through Public Notice(s). After the authorization of the Committee and initiation of its first term, vacancies will be filled through a similar outreach process by individuals and organizations similar to those who are leaving the Committee in order to retain proper balance among Committee members. As Committee members serving in their individual capacity may not be registered federal lobbyists, such nominees who are registered federal lobbyists will not be considered; however, the ban does not apply if these nominees are specifically appointed to represent the interests of a nongovernmental entity, a recognizable group of persons or nongovernmental entities, or state or local governments. No specific nomination form is required; however, each nomination must include the following information:

- Name, title, and organization of the nominee and a description of the organization, sector or other interest the nominee will represent;
- Nominee's mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone number;
- A statement summarizing the nominee's qualifications and reasons why the nominee should be appointed to the Committee;
- A statement, if the nominee will represent a specific organization, describing the organization as well as the benefit of having the organization represented on the Committee; and
- A statement confirming that the nominee, if seeking appointment for the individual's expertise and not as a representative of an organization or entity, is not a registered federal lobbyist.

Members will be appointed for a term not to exceed the expiration date of the Committee's charter. Nominations and expressions of interest will be reviewed by the Committee's Designated Federal Officer (DFO) and appropriate Commission staff, who will make recommendations for membership to the FCC Chairman.

7. Subcommittee Balance

Subcommittees subject to FACA should either state that the process for determining FAC member balance on subcommittees is the same as the process for the parent FAC, or describe how it is different*

**This is relevant to those agencies that require their subcommittees to follow all FACA requirements*

When the need arises to form subcommittees of the Committee, members will be asked to serve as appropriate. The DFO, in consultation with the FCC Chairman, will monitor membership balance in the formation of subcommittees to ensure that the balance mirrors that of the Committee itself.

8. Other

Provide any additional information that supports the balance of the FAC

None.

9. Date Prepared/Updated

Insert the actual date the Membership Balance Plan was initially prepared, along with the date(s) the Plan is updated

The Membership Balance Plan was prepared on January 24, 2017.